

# M'KINLEY AND HIS CABINET DECIDE UPON THE REPLY TO BE GIVEN TO SPAIN

## SPAIN WILL NOT CEDE PORTO RICO

Will Combat to the Last Against  
Giving Up the Island.

WOULD RATHER SACRIFICE

One of the Philippines Than to Part  
With Porto Rico.

A SUSPENSION OF HOSTILITIES

Was Not Asked for By Spain and  
Will Not Be.

RECOGNIZING OUR SUPERIORITY

The Message Delivered By M. Cambon  
Was So Dignified That the Haught-  
iest Don Could Not Consider It  
Humiliating—London Comments.

London, July 29.—The Madrid correspondent of the Daily Mail says:  
The Spanish government will combat to the last against a cession of Porto Rico to the United States. It would much rather sacrifice one of the Philippine islands, contending that Porto Rico has always been loyal, and outside the scope of the war. For the Madrid correspondent of the Times says that according to a newspaper statement Senor Gamazo, Spanish minister of public instruction and public works said in the course of an interview at Madrid yesterday:

"Spain has not asked an armistice or even a suspension of hostilities. That would be tantamount to beseeching the enemy not to strike us. We shall never come to that."  
"The message to the United States while recognizing the superiority of the Yankee forces and their military operations, is confined to terms so dignified that when the document is published no one will be able to say it is humiliating. It asks whether the United States is disposed to make peace but requests neither truces nor armistices."

The Times correspondent says Senor Gamazo added:  
"If Manila surrenders the capitulation will only apply to the walled town."  
It is feared, the correspondent reports, that the peace negotiations will not be very smooth or expeditious. Already there are signs of agitation against the concessions and the correspondent of the Times considers it "very doubtful, whether all the ministers have the moral courage to accept the responsibility and to face boldly a certain amount of unpopularity."

Question of Porto Rico  
London, July 30.—A special dispatch from Madrid says:

"Although it is not likely that the government will decide to prolong the war because of Porto Rico, considerable feeling is manifested and every diplomatic effort will be made to retain it."  
"Apparently there is little objection to ceding a coaling station in the Philippines provided Spain's sovereignty is respected in the island, which in the opinion of the government official circles generally, will afford compensation in commerce for the loss of the Antilles, besides procuring occupation for the West Indian army in re-establishing Spanish rule."

"The American reply is still anxiously awaited. Judging from press opinions anything beyond the cession of Cuba will be considered harsh and unjust. This is the unanimous feeling among even the strongest advocates of peace. The people are beginning to realize that peace will mean almost a total loss of colonies and looking to the delicate and difficult position of the queen regent, great care is still necessary to induce the nation to accept the terms."

"The Carlist and republican papers are making the most of the situation while many of the Catholic prelates decline to comply with orders from the Vatican to censure the Carlist agitation."

"El Imparcial's Rome correspondent says the pope is so displeased with this attitude of the priests that he has washed his hands of the whole affair."

According to El Liberal, the government would not allow even the loss of some of the Philippines to hinder the conclusion of peace, because it is very doubtful whether the country would endorse sending an army of 40,000 men to crush the rebellion. One of the leading Carlists here denies the reports of dissensions.

London Paper's Comments.  
London, July 30.—Except upon the unsettled point of the Philippines, the main lines of the peace terms were readily discounted here. The editorials in the morning papers today generally regard them as evidence of a desire on the part of the United States to treat Spain generously, and to limit, so far as possible, the extension of America's administrative responsibilities beyond seas. The papers agree that there is no limited liability in warfare. Spain is naturally sore, but they point out, she must put up with the loss of Porto Rico, and, if she is well advised, she will close with the American terms."

In the Daily Mail's opinion an indemnity of from £5,000,000 to £7,000,000 (\$20,000,000 to \$25,000,000) will be demanded for the loss of the Maine.

The Times in an editorial on the terms of peace confines itself to a discussion raised in the Philippines.

It says: "It seems equally difficult for America to take or leave them. Spain had

## The Saffron Flag of Spain Must Dis- appear Forever From the West- ern Hemisphere.

WASHINGTON, July 29.—Nearly five hours' earnest discussion by the president and his constitutional advisers of the nature of the response to be made by the government to the Spanish overture peace brought no conclusion and the subject necessarily was postponed for further consideration at another meeting of the cabinet to be held at 10:30 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Such was the formal statement of the situation made at the conclusion of the day's work by each member of the cabinet who was questioned upon the subject. A final conclusion, however, is much nearer than this statement would seem to indicate, and, indeed, there is little reason to doubt that an agreement has been reached upon all the substantial points at issue and that what remains to be done tomorrow is rather to smooth away inequalities and adjust minor points before making the answer expected by M. Cambon. The point under discussion during the greater part of the meeting was what disposition should be made of the Philippines. On the other issues unanimity developed.

There was to be independence demanded for Cuba, Porto Rico was to be ceded to the United States; coaling stations were to be acquired at Guama in the Ladrone Islands and one in the Caroline Islands. These propositions were disposed of quickly, but when it came to the Philippines some diversity of opinion was revealed. As near as can be gathered this did not relate mainly to the retention of the islands; on that proposition a majority of the cabinet was speedily recorded in the negative. But accepting the broad proposition that Spain was to be allowed to keep these possessions, other questions of importance developed and it was felt that these must be answered definitely before the subject could be disposed of.

COALING STATION WILL BE DEMANDED

There was no question as to the propriety of demanding a coaling station in the Philippines and while there reasonably might be a difference of opinion of the location and extent of this station, little difficulty was expected to be encountered in solving that problem because the matter could be referred to the naval board who are competent to deal with the subject. The perplexing problem was what form of government should be instituted in the Philippines and what should be the nature of the guarantee required of Spain that the new government should be liberal and autonomous in character. These two questions hinged on the primary decision to interfere at all in prescribing a change in the conditions of the Philippines. Some members of the cabinet felt that the insurgents under Aguinaldo having acted independently of the United States from the very beginning of the insurrectionary movement and having lately shown a disposition to make trouble for us, had no moral claim upon the consideration of the United States in the settlement of the terms of peace. On the other hand it was urged that our government should lose no opportunity to extend its principles throughout the world and that this would be done best in the present case by requiring Spain to extend genuine autonomy to the Philippines. It was upon just such points as this that the discussion lay.

A point which was quickly established was that there should be no reference of any phase of the question of the disposition of the islands to any concert or individual action by outside powers. Another point that was settled, though there was no formal action in it, was that no protest against the continuance of military or naval operations pending the peace negotiations would avail in the slightest; that there would be no armistice; no suspension of operations nor any modification whatever of present plans until the Spanish government had agreed to the terms proposed.

ALL ISLANDS IN CARIBBEAN TO BE OURS

Incident to the cession of Porto Rico and the recognition of Cuban independence by Spain was the decision that every vestige of Spanish government and authority in the Caribbean and West Indian waters must be removed effecting a material acquisition of numerous islands over which the Spanish flag flies, one of the most important of which is the Isle of Pines. Furthermore, this sweeping change of authority from Spain to the United States in our nearby waters is to be effective also as a quit claim of all indebtedness assumed by the Spanish government and charged by her to those islands, so far as the United States is concerned, and all commercial treaties now existing between the Spanish government and her possessions there and outside powers are extinguished.

Some discussion was had as to the probability of Spanish acceptance of our terms. The views differed, though it can be stated that several of the more in-

## There Must Be No Interference by Outside Powers in the Peace Negotiations.

fluential members of the cabinet believed that the terms substantially agreed on would not be accepted by Spain at once. While believing that the proposition made should in all reason constitute the minimum to be considered, some expressed the belief that Spain would not be immediately disposed to reach an agreement on them and that possibly a considerable lapse of time would ensue before that government would be ready to yield, meantime seeking a compromise, which it was asserted, was not to be entertained for a moment. Others took the ground that there was every indication that she had decided to make terms and that what was now proposed would soon be acceded to to avoid further disaster.

One factor in the protracted discussion of the Philippine problem was the absence of advice as to the existing situation there on this date, a point that might be of considerable importance in the adjustment of the question. The unconfirmed dispatch reporting Manila had surrendered was read and commented on as indicating that definite action without knowledge of the exact situation at Manila might cause a statement regarding conditions that did not exist. The formal papers crystallizing the results of the two sessions today will be ready for action tomorrow. A formal vote will then be had and the answer of this government is likely to be communicated to Spain before nightfall.

MILES MAKING EXCELLENT PROGRESS

The most important news received at the war department today was the cable from General Miles announcing the excellent progress in southern Porto Rico and the capture of Ponce. The navy department also received a cable announcing that the navy had captured the city of Ponce and landed the forces under General Miles. Both departments are very much satisfied with what has been accomplished, and both dispatches indicate that the rivalry between the army and navy for honors in the Spanish war is not at an end. The department expects an easy conquest of Porto Rico, and, notwithstanding the overtures for peace made by Spain, the war will be prosecuted vigorously in that island.

The belief is general in the war department that General Merritt has landed in Manila, though no cable information has been received.

The care of the sick and wounded and steps looking to their comfort has engaged officers of the war department today. An officer has been dispatched to Montauk Point to prepare a hospital for the sick of Shafter's army when they should have arrived in the United States. Orders also have been issued looking to the accommodation of sick soldiers on furlough, enabling them to visit their homes and return with greater dispatch and convenience.

It has been determined to send a commission to visit the hospitals of the various army camps with a view to ameliorating the condition of the sick. A surgeon of the army and Major Hopkins, of the adjutant general's office, will compose this commission with perhaps some other officer of the army. Major Hopkins is Secretary Alger's military aide. The surgeon general's office is considering the advisability of allowing a number of women as nurses in the hospitals at the large camps.

OBJECTION TO WOMEN NURSES

The surgeon general has been averse to having women nurses in the field, but it is said that the large rendezvous camps cannot be considered as field service and that the objection to women does not apply as it would in active service.

General Shafter was heard from this afternoon in a message relating to the transports in Santiago, which are wanted to carry additional forces to Porto Rico. He reported that they were unloaded as fast as possible and that the Yucatan, Allegheny, Comal and San Marcos sailed for Tampa yesterday, while the Segurancia, Miami and Matawa were to sail today. The department wants at least three of these boats at once at Tampa to load on the artillery and cavalry of Coppinger's division. General Coppinger telegraphed today that so far these troops have left Tampa: Eleventh and Nineteenth infantry, under General Schwan; Batteries C and M, of the Seventh artillery; Troops B, Second cavalry, and A, Fifth cavalry. The following troops are waiting transports: Batteries and M, Fifth artillery; E, of the Sixth; H, of the Seventh, and C, of the Fourth.

The Fifth Infantry, Fifth cavalry, General Hudson's brigade, consisting of the Second Georgia, Fifth Maryland, and First Florida, and General Snyder's headquarters as well as the division headquarters.

# PONCE SURRENDERS TO COMMANDER DAVIS

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PORT OF PONCE, PORTO RICO, July 29.—Via the Island of St. Thomas, Danish West Indies, July 29.—The port of Ponce surrendered to Commander C. D. Davis, of the auxiliary gunboat Dixie, yesterday. There was no resistance, and the Americans were welcomed with enthusiasm.

Major General Miles arrived here this morning at daylight with General Ernst's brigade and immediately started for the town of Ponce, three miles inland, which capitulated this afternoon.

The American troops are pushing towards the mountains and will join General Henry with his brigade at Guanica, which has been captured by our troops.

A fight between the latter part on Tuesday last was won by the American volunteers. The Spaniards ambushed eight companies of the Sixth Massachusetts and Sixth Illinois regiments, but the enemy was repulsed and driven back a mile to a ridge, where the Spanish cavalry charged and were routed by our infantry.

General Garretson led the fight with the men from Illinois and Massachusetts and the enemy retreated to Yacou, leaving four dead on the field and several wounded.

None of our men were killed and only three were slightly wounded. The wounded are: Captain Gibson Barrett, Private James Drummond, Private H. C. Gary.

The roads are good for military purposes. Our troops are healthy and General Miles says the campaign will be short and vigorous.

DISPATCH FROM GEN. MILES  
Washington, July 29.—The war department has received the following dispatch from General Miles:

"Port Ponce, Porto Rico, Via St. Thomas, July 29.

"Secretary of War, Washington:

"On the 26th Garretson had a spirited engagement on skirmish line. Our

casualties, four wounded, all doing well. Spanish loss three killed and thirteen wounded. Youco occupied yesterday. Henry's division there today.

"Last evening Commander Davis, of the Dixie, moved into this port, followed by Captain Higginson with his fleet early this morning. General Wilson with Ernst's brigade now rapidly disembarking.

"Spanish troops are retreating from southern part of Porto Rico. Ponce and port have a population of 50,000, now under American flag. The populace received the troops and saluted the flag with wild enthusiasm.

"The navy has several prizes, also seventy lighters. Railway stock partly destroyed, but now restored. Telegraph communication also being restored. Cable instruments destroyed. Have sent to Jamaica for others. This is a prosperous and beautiful country. The army will soon be in mountain region; weather delightful; troops in best of health and spirits. Anticipate no insurmountable obstacle in future. Results thus far have been accomplished without the loss of a single life.

(Signed.) "NELSON A. MILES, Major-General."

"Port Ponce, Porto Rico, July 29.

"Secretary of War, Washington:

"In the affair of the 26th Captain Edward J. Gibson, company A, was wounded in the left hip; Captain J. H. Prior, company L, slightly wounded in the hand; Private James Drummond, company K, two wounds in neck, and Private Benjamin F. Bisbee, company L, slight wound in right arm. All doing well. The Spanish retreat from this place was precipitous, they leaving rifles and ammunition barnacles and forty or fifty sick in hospitals. The people are enjoying a holiday in honor of our arrival.

(Signed.) "MILES."

The Sixth Massachusetts and Sixth Illinois went to Porto Rico on the Dixie.

## Conclusion Reached As to Answer to Spain

Special Dispatch to Age-Herald

Washington, July 29.—The president and his cabinet have practically reached the conclusion that the answer to be sent Spain's plea for peace should be to this effect: The United States will grant an armistice if Spain binds herself to begin at once the evacuation of Cuba and Porto Rico and all the islands in the West Indian waters belonging to Spain, all other questions to be left to future negotiations.

The minimum of the demands to be made when the other questions come up for discussion are, first, a naval base in the Ladrone; second, a naval base in the Philippines, probably Manila, and the contiguous territory; third, the settlement of private claims by a Spanish-American commission.

The cabinet is to be commended for at least one decision reached today, and that is that peace negotiations must be confined to the United States and Spain, and that no foreign power shall act as arbitrator or umpire in the settlement of the questions which must be determined to secure lasting peace.

## No Attack Had Been Made on Manila July 27

Hong Kong, July 30.—The British gunboat Plover has arrived here from Manila. She reports that when she left Manila on Wednesday, July 27, the situation there was unchanged and the Americans had not yet attacked the city.

## Feeling of Satisfaction Over Porto Rican Campaign

Washington, July 29.—The results thus far achieved by General Miles and Captain Higginson, in command of the naval squadron in the occupation of Porto Rico have created a feeling of intense satisfaction among officials of the administration. Information received today directly from General Miles and through dispatches to the Associated Press was very gratifying to the president and his advisers. It indicates, as one of the officials expressed it, that Miles is cleaning up everything as he goes.

The surrender of Ponce practically without a struggle, is regarded by the war department officials with especial satisfaction. In importance, it is the second city of the island.

While nothing definite is known to the war department yet of General Miles plans for the immediate future, the statement in his dispatch that the troops will soon be in the mountain country is taken to mean that he proposes to rapidly push on towards San Juan. The lighters taken at Playa del Este enable him speedily to land the troops of the expedition as they arrive and it is believed there will be no delay in the reduction of the entire island. It is expected that the Spanish forces will offer no vigorous opposition to the United States troops until San Juan is reached. There the great battle in the capture of the island will be fought unless meantime Spain should conclude to yield to the inevitable.

## Hobson Will Visit His Alabama Home

Washington, July 29.—Lieutenant Hobson was granted leave of absence today by the navy department to visit his home. He will remain with his people but a few hours and will then proceed to Santiago.

## NOT WITH FIRE AND SWORD

Did Our Victorious Soldiers En-  
ter the City of Santiago.

BEARING MEAT AND BREAD

For the Starving Inhabitants and Dis-  
armed Defenders of the Capital.

EVERYWHERE WAS REJOICING.

Our Troops Were Received, Not As  
Conquerors, But As Defenders.

THE CIVILIAN GAVE THANKS

That No More Bombs Would Be Thrown  
Into the City and the Soldier Was  
Grateful Because He Would Be  
Returned to Spain.

Correspondence to the Associated Press

Santiago de Cuba, July 29.—Not with fire and sword did the victorious soldiers of the United States enter the entrenched capital of eastern Cuba, but bearing meat and bread for her starving inhabitants and the armed defenders and they were received, not in fear and trembling as conquerors are by a fallen city, but with outstretched hands as deliverers from famine. For the people of Santiago were starving, rich and poor, merchant, soldier and vagabond. The soldier whose heart had never been in this war rejoiced openly that he would soon be returned to Spain.

The civilian gave thanks that no more bombs would come screaming over the hill; no more dead and wounded men be brought in from the forts and trenches outside the city. Everywhere was seen rejoicing, rather than mourning or sullen hostility; not a woman wore the red and yellow colors of Spain, or refused to answer the courteous salutation of the American newspaper correspondents.

The merchants were affability itself, shaking hands cordially with every departing patron and responding to "Viva America" with a hearty "viva" and a wave of the hand. It mattered not to the people of Santiago that Spain's honor had been tarnished, that the old Cortez, who sailed from Santiago four centuries ago to ravage Mexico would have died with his last man rather than surrender. Santiago had been saved from starvation and further bloodshed.

The curious people who went down to the wharves after the surrender had been contemplating seeing the terrible American warships sail up to the city, beheld instead the approach of a black merchant ship with a Red Cross painted on each side, a Red Cross at her peak, a kindly-faced woman directing the movements of the vessel and other women on the decks. It was the relief ship, State of Texas, loaded with food enough to give every one in Santiago something to eat.

Began Issuing Food

The relief ship moored at the principal wharf, opened her hatches and began to issue food to the crazed people who thronged to her side. Questions to the applicants were unnecessary; their emaciated faces and eager eyes told that they were desperately hungry. The children were pitiful to look at. They were not as naked as in newspaper pictures, but their arms and hands seemed fleshless, the skin was drawn tight over their pinched faces and their eyes had an unnatural lustre. In asking alms they stretched forth their skinny hands timidly and the beseeching, frightened look in their eyes went to the heart of every American. The Spanish soldiers did not openly beg for food, but when questioned they said earnestly that they were very hungry and food given to them was devoured ravenously.

The first American to enter Santiago after the surrender was a correspondent of the Associated Press, who had gone among the refugees at El Caney. For the time he spoke only Spanish. He was one of the first fugitives to enter the city and he did not resume the use of the English language until the cable office had been reopened when his account of the surrender was filed, long before any other.

There are thirty vessels in the harbor today, most of them troopships, waiting to unload their supplies. Some of them had been waiting off Siboney nearly a month for an opportunity to discharge cargo.

Before the war broke out, United States Consul Hyatt at Santiago was feeding 5,000 persons in and near the city. Relief work ended when Mr. Hyatt was ordered to leave the island. In the latter part of May, the United States began to blockade Santiago. The city has always imported the greater part of its food supply, the surrounding country being undeveloped and the blockade had immediate effect. It is reasonable to suppose that nearly all of Consul Hyatt's people are dead, for when Santiago surrendered last Sunday the rich were starving.

No Stock in the Stores

A correspondent of the Associated Press who went through the business section yesterday found stores closed, having no stock. The tobacco merchants have not much stock left. In the market place few of the stalls are occupied. A little rice was being sold at an exorbitant price. In

[Continued on Second Page.]